

Serial No. 10/629,746
Group Art Unit: 3635
Amdt. Dated: May 15, 2007
Reply to Office Action of January 16, 2007

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-Page 33-

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 29, 2006 and the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated January 16, 2007, Applicant, without prejudice to pursue the non-elected claims in a new application, and with traverse, hereby elects the Group I set of claims comprising claims 1-45, 52 and 55-68 for prosecution in the present application.

Applicant has also cancelled claims 9-11, 14, 17-20, 26-28, 32-33, 36-45 and 57-68.

Claims 69-71 have been amended to be dependent directly or indirectly upon new claim 72. Accordingly, it is submitted that these claims can be maintained for prosecution in the present application and the Examiner is requested to reconsider the restriction requirement in relation thereto.

Various amendments have also been made to the other original claims, and new claims 72-117 have been added, to more fully cover the invention made by the applicant. Applicant submits that the new claims are directed to the same invention as Group I claims.

All claims still pending are believed are entitled to prosecuted with the Group I set of claims and are provided to further and more fully define the scope of the invention which the applicant believes he is entitled to protect.

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-Page 34-

With respect to the election of species requirement, applicant hereby elects Species II
(Figure 4).

Applicant believes the following claims read on the elected Species II:

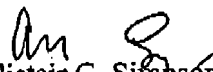
1-8, 12, 15, 16, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, 35, 55, 56, 69, 70, 72-100, 102, 104-113; 115-117.

None of the claim amendments have been made for the purpose of addressing a prior art objection, but have been made to more fully and completely provide the applicant with the scope of protection to which he believes he is properly entitled.

It is also believed that no new matter has been added by any of the foregoing amendments.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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